SUBJECTS.

empowered to sign copies of the papers applied for, instead of the Head ministerial officers of the several courts; and *(d)* that impressed sheets might be introduced for granting copies. He also requested that printed process forms promised by the standing orders of the High Court might be supplied early, as great hardship was being caused to the client population by processes not being served promptly; and further proposed that, in the interest of departmental discipline, Munsiffs might be given control over the peons deputed for service in their courts.

Dewan's reply.—The suggestions will be communicated to the High Court. I must, however, at once say that there is very little chance of any modification of the rules being made now, because these rules have been in force for just over three months, and the High Court have recently sent in a report to say that it is far too early to amend the rules now.

22. *Rule re. production of encumbrance certificates for sales in execution of decrees.*

Mr. A. Venkitarama Iyer also requested that the rule requiring encumbrance certificates for sales of immovable property in execution of decrees in civil courts might be abolished or that such certificates should be ordered to be issued by the Sub-Registrars themselves vouching to the correctness and the exhaustiveness of the entries therein made without making the applicants responsible for the same. As it was, no body was responsible for the correctness of the certificate and this gave a premium for slipshod returns.

Dewan's reply.—The Head Sirkar Vakil advises me that, if Sub-Registrars are instructed to grant certificates such as you suggest, *viz.*, absolutely vouching to their correctness, there is the contingency that, in cases mistakes are discovered, a party who thinks that he has sustained loss on account of a wrong certificate, may sue Government for damages. In view to that fact, Government cannot issue instructions of the kind suggested. The question of doing away with encumbrance certificates completely was discussed fully at the last session and the answer was then given that the certificates could not be completely done away with. Government have since received a report from the High Court endorsing that opinion and see no reason to alter their views.

23. *Appointment of competent conveyancers.*

Mr. K. Raman Tampi (Member, Vilavankod Taluk) said that much mischief, loss and unnecessary litigation were being caused by the ignorance and irresponsibility of the document writers frequenting Registration offices, and

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